

REMARKS

Restriction

The Office Action makes a restriction of the claims and requires Applicant to make an election of claims to prosecute.

Applicant hereby elects Group I, without traverse, and comprised of claims 1-36, drawn to a system of friction stir welding that includes a friction stir welding tool and an opposing mandrel. Applicant also elects the species identified as I.a. comprised of claims 2-9 if no generic claims is finally held to be allowable. Applicant believes that claims 1-26 and 31-36 are all readable on Group I.a. because these claims all include a movable mandrel.

Conclusion

In light of the statements above, Applicant respectfully requests examination of all the claims readable on the elected group and species within the group.. If any impediment to the allowance of these claims remains after entry of this Amendment, and such impediment could be alleviated during a telephone interview, the examiner is invited to call David W. O'Bryant at (801) 478-0071 so that such matters may be resolved as

expeditiously as possible.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fee or to credit any overpayment in connection with this Amendment to Deposit Account No. 50-0881.

DATED this 17th day of January, 2006.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "David W. O'Bryant", written in a cursive style.

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